

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/600,734

Examiner

Carlos Lugo

Applicant(s)

ERICKSON ET AL.

Art Unit

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to applicant's amendment filed on September 22, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1,3-6,8,9,11-16,18,20-22 and 32.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____

DETAILED ACTION

1. This Office Action is in response to applicant's amendment filed on September 22, 2005.

Allowable Subject Matter

2. **Claims 1,3-6,8,9,11-16,18,20-22 and 32 are allowed.**

Reasons For Allowance

3. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowable subject matter:

Claims 1,9,18 and 32 are allowable over the prior art of record because the teachings of the references taken as a whole do not teach or render obvious the combination set forth, including that the latch is hingedly connected to the chassis and that sliding manipulation of the locking mechanism at the first side, which is mounted to the panel, causes the release and secure of the latch.

Cheng (US 6,373,692) discloses a securing mechanism comprising a panel (1) for adjustably connecting to a chassis (3) substantially along a first side. A latch (2) is mounted to a second side of the chassis (when the panel is secured to the chassis). A locking mechanism (4) is provided to release and secure the latch.

Webb (US 6,772,613) discloses a securing mechanism comprising a panel (40) for adjustably connecting to a chassis substantially along a first side. A latch (80) is mounted to a second side of the chassis, substantially opposite the first side, for latching the panel. A locking mechanism (50) is provided to release and secure the latch (when the padlock 50 is removed, a person can move the latch rod 80, Col. 6 Lines 29-37).

However, Cheng and Webb fail to disclose that the latch is hingedly connected to the chassis that sliding manipulation of the locking mechanism at the first side, which is mounted to the panel, causes the release and secure of the latch.

Cheng discloses that the latch (2) is hingedly connected to the panel and that pivotally movement of the locking mechanism will cause the release and the secure of the latch. Further, Cheng fails to disclose that the locking mechanism is mounted to the panel.

Webb discloses that the latch (80) is slidably connected to the chassis and that that sliding manipulation of the locking mechanism at the second side causes the release and secure of the latch. Further, Webb fails to disclose that the locking mechanism is mounted to the panel.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

4. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlos Lugo whose telephone number 571-272-7058. The examiner can normally be reached on 9-6pm EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Glessner can be reached on 571-272-6843. The fax phone number

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for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-272-7049.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is 703-306-5771.

C.C.

Carlos Lugo
AU 3676

October 14, 2005


BRIAN E. GLESSNER
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER